

1. (Twice Amended) A side-emitting illumination device for uniformly distributing light comprising:

an LED light source,

a light-transmitting rod which permits total internal reflection, and

outcoupling material affixed to an outer surface of the rod, wherein the width of the outcoupling material affixed to an outer surface of the rod controls the angular distribution of light leaving the side of the rod.

Please add the following new Claim 19:



--19. (New) A method of controlling the angular distribution of light leaving the side of a side-emitting illumination device for uniformly distributing light comprising:

providing a light-transmitting rod which permits total internal reflection with an outcoupling material along its side; controlling the width of the outcoupling material to achieve a desired angular distribution of light leaving the side of

illuminating the light-transmitting rod with an LED light source.--

the rod; and